

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 05018 031422Z

65-61

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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R 031415Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9841

INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

UNCLAS LONDON 05018

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, RH, UK

SUBJECT: BRITISH PRESS COMMENT ON RHODESIAN COURT'S UP-  
HOLDING SITHOLE DETENTION

1. BRITISH PRESS UNANIMOUS IN EXPRESSING SKEPTICISM OVER FAIRNESS OF RHODESIAN COURT'S DECISION UPHOLDING DETENTION ORDER ON NDABANINGI SITHOLE. TIMES, IN EDITORIAL ON APRIL 3, SAYS "THE CHARGES, THE TRIAL, THE JUDGMENT, AND THE GOVERNMENT'S MOTIVES WILL ALL BE REGARDED WITH CONSIDERABLE SKEPTICISM." BY ADJURING DEFENSE AGAINST TERRORISM CHARGES, TIMES SAYS, IN THE EYES OF AFRICANS RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT HAS ADMITTED THAT ITS EVIDENCE WILL NOT STAND UP. THE CHANCES ARE THAT FAR FROM DISCREDITING SITHOLE "THE GOVERNMENT HAS MERELY PROCLAIMED THAT HE IS THE LEADER IT FEARS MOST OF ALL. THIS WILL HARDLY MAKE IT EASIER FOR BISHOP MUZOREWA AND MR. NKOMO TO COME TO AN AGREEMENT WITH MR. SMITH."

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PAGE 02 LONDON 05018 031422Z

2. IN SIMILAR VEIN FINANCIAL TIMES CORRESPONDENT IN

SALISBURY CONCLUDES THAT EVEN IF ANC-SMITH TALKS RESUME IT IS DOUBTFUL INDEED IF SMITH GOVERNMENT WOULD FIND THE SO-CALLED MODERATES IN THE ANC ANY MORE RECEPTIVE TO ITS IDEAS THAN THE MILITANT ELEMENTS IT IS TRYING TO ISOLATE. THE GUARDIAN INTERPRETS THE LONG AND DETAILED NATURE OF THE TRIBUNAL'S JUDGMENT "AS AIMED AS MUCH AT INTERNATIONAL OPINION AND PARTICULARLY SOUTH AFRICA AS AT MR. SIT-HOLE AND HIS FOLLOWERS."

RICHARDSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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